

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Development

Active Construction Projects

Harbor Boulevard Sidewalks – This sidewalk will be installed on Harbor Boulevard from an existing sidewalk close to Midway Boulevard to an existing sidewalk on Veterans Boulevard. Design includes crossings at Peachland Boulevard and Quesada Boulevard. This will also provide a link to the newly constructed sidewalk along Midway Boulevard as well as a link to future sidewalks in the Parkside area. This will be an integral part of a network of sidewalks planned for the Port Charlotte Area.

The contractor is working aggressively on this project beginning at Veterans Boulevard moving southward towards Harbor Boulevard and Peachland Blvd. Directional bores have been installed under all of the side streets; crews have begun installing drainage catch basins and pipes. County staff is coordinating with School Board transportation staff to ensure that school bus stops and sidewalk construction are not in conflict. We are at approximately 30% of the contract time and 30% of the construction has been completed.

Sunnybrook Boulevard Sidewalks – This sidewalk will be installed from South Access Road to Boundary Boulevard and will connect to future sidewalks on Oceanspray and Gulfstream ending at a future sidewalk on Boundary Blvd as part of a Safe Routes to School Program funded by the Florida Department of Transportation. Sidewalk construction is scheduled to begin September 4, 2013.

Construction Projects in Design or Negotiation

Sales Tax Year Three (CR 74) Sidewalks – This sidewalk will be installed on County Road 74 from US 17 to Westminster Street in the Charlotte Ranchettes. Design includes a connection to a recently constructed sidewalk at US 17.

We received the SWFWMD permit for this project and anticipate design to be complete by late-August 2013. Construction is projected to begin in February 2014 contingent upon inspector availability.

Sales Tax Year Three (Rio De Janeiro) Sidewalks – A sidewalk will be installed from an existing sidewalk on Rio De Janeiro Avenue at Rampart Boulevard to a future sidewalk on Deep Creek Boulevard. Design includes a connection/crossing to a future sidewalk at Sandhill Boulevard. This is an integral part of a planned sidewalk network in the Deep Creek area.

Award of the construction contract is scheduled to go before the BCC on September 10, 2013 and construction is projected to begin in late September 2013.

Sales Tax Year Three (Riverside Drive) Sidewalks – This sidewalk will be installed on Riverside Drive from Marlympia to Cleveland Drive. Design includes a connection to a recently constructed sidewalk on Florida Street. The design engineer completed and delivered the 30% plans for staff to review on August 2, 2013.

Drainage Projects

Little Farm Road Culverts – The scope of this project is to design and permit culverts to replace the concrete swaled portion near the end of Little Farm Road.

60% design plans and revised calculations are currently being reviewed by staff. The consultant is revising the model in an attempt to reduce the number of culverts to be installed under the road. As of August 21, 2013, the consultant is still trying to get a revised model to work with water district requirements.

Newgate Waterway Spoil Removal - The Newgate Waterway has several large silt deposits and overgrown vegetation within the limits of the water line. This accumulated material is causing an adverse impact on the stormwater conveyance system and needs to be removed.

Design is underway and consists of determining how much sediment needs to be removed as well as defining access points and the means and methods of construction. The design consultant is in the process of

compiling information including sediment borings to complete the permitting process. A change order is being processed to cover the cost of the additional permitting required for the revised project parameters.

Miscellaneous Projects

Rotonda West Drainage Study – This drainage study is being conducted at the request of the Rotonda MSBU Advisory Committee. The study includes data gathering, modeling of the existing drainage system, and recommended drainage improvements.

The final drainage study report has been received by the County. Authorization was received from the MSBU committee for the consultants to start on Task 2 of the scope of services which includes developing an improvement plan to existing conditions and a project budget analysis which is underway. Staff met with the consultant to discuss the Task 2 draft report. The report will be presented at the next Rotonda West MSBU meeting in September 2013.

Sunshine Lake Recharge Wells – Upon completion of the Sunshine Lake Algae Removal project, the County shall initiate installation of two recharge wells to maintain active water flow through the lake. A recharge well will be located at the north end of Sunshine Lake and a second adjacent to McGuire Park. The contract documents are currently being finalized.

Sunshine Lake Water Level Control Structure - The purpose of this project is to design and construct a water control structure at the downstream end of the Sunrise Waterway to restore and enhance the water quality of Sunshine Lake. This project is being conducted in response to recommendations received from the Sunshine Lake Water Quality Study.

Construction plans and the Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) application package are at 90% and should be submitted to SWFWMD in July 2013. Construction is projected to begin in the spring of 2014.

Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

The Charlotte Sports Park hosted three (3) home games for the Charlotte Stone Crabs on the following dates with the attendance: Monday, 8/12 – 623; Saturday, 8/17 (Rain Delay/Fireworks) – 1449; Sunday, 8/18 (Rain Delay/Game Cancelled in 6th Inning) – 239.

The Charlotte Sports Park hosted three (3) home games of the Gulf Coast League for the Tampa Bay Rays with estimated attendance of 70 fans.

Harold Avenue Recreation

On Saturday Coach Vivian "Cookie" Hall was honored for her dedication to the Harold Avenue Recreation Center's Youth Basketball League. For more than 38 consecutive seasons Coach "Cookie" has been found on Harold's courts helping players improve their skills and develop good sportsmanship. In honor of her commitment, the Harold Avenue Recreation Center's Gymnasium has been renamed the Vivian Hall Gymnasium. Commissioner Constance presided and spoke of Coach Cookie's impact on the league and children in the community to over 250 parents, players and past participants. Also in attendance were John Hitzel, Katherine Aries and Maria Greenberg representing the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board; Deputy County Administrator, Kelly Shoemaker and Assistant to the County Administrator, Hector Flores; Community Services Director, Tommy Scott and Recreation Manager, Maureen Broderick. The Harold Avenue Recreation Center Staff would like to thank Coach "Cookie" for her commitment to the youth of Charlotte County, both on and off the court, and to everyone who came to pay tribute to her spirit of volunteerism.

Port Charlotte Beach Recreation and Pool

For the week of August 11 –August 17 the Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 60 attend the water aerobics classes and 196 paid admissions.

The Recreation Center rental facilities remains closed to the public while new floors are installed. The office remains open.

South County Regional Park and Pool

Staff is preparing for upcoming Fall programming including but not limited to Fall Intersession, Thanksgiving Break and upcoming Tot Programs.

For the week of 8-14 through 8-20-13 South County Regional Park Pool had 249 paid admissions, was visited by 112 pass holders and had 22 water aerobics participants. Learn to swim summer session 4 continued with 8 classes and 40 students. Charlotte High School Swim & Dive team held 8 practices resulting in approximately 400 "splashes". The Charlotte County Blue Fins held 7 practices resulting in approximately 400 "splashes".

Staff accompanied Special Olympics to the Area Swim Meet at the Selby Aquatic Center in Sarasota Saturday 8-17-13. Charlotte County Athletes won 8 First Place, 9 Second Place and 4 Third Place ribbons during the meet. In addition, the 4x50 meter Freestyle relay team took First Place finishing a pool length and a half ahead of the second place team.

Oyster Creek/Ann Dever Memorial Park and Pool

Oyster Creek Regional Park Pool had 350 paid admissions, was visited by 101 pass holders and had 59 water aerobics participants. 4 Different summer camps visited the pool resulting in approximately 80 "splashes". Learn to swim summer session 4 continued with 2 different classes and 8 students. The Lemon Bay High School Swim and Dive team held 5 practices resulting in approximately 200 "splashes". The Charlotte County Blue Fins held 5 swim practices resulting in approximately 150 "splashes". Lemon Bay High School held their back to school senior splash party 8-20-13, with approximately 150 students and teachers attending.

Extension Services

- Newspaper Article for August 19th – "Another vine to keep in mind"
- Northshore & Harper Ave BMP Workshop Planning – Extension Conference Room – August 19th – 11 am to 12 noon
- Managers Meeting – Mid-County Library – 1 to 3 pm – August 19th
- MG Advisory Committee PolyCom – August 20th – 9:30 to 11:30 am – Training Room A
- Visit Florida Street Garden – August 20th – 2:30 pm
- Sustainability Team Meeting –Facilities Building in Murdock – 1:30 to 3:00 pm
- Extension Staff Meeting – August 22nd – 3:00 pm – Extension Conference Room
- Extension Professional Agents Association Meeting, August 26th to the 30th - Ponte Vedra Beach – Betty and Ralph in attendance

Libraries and Historical

The Charlotte County Libraries are very excited about our new e-book service that is coming on September 4th. This long awaited collection will be available for selection both on line and in the libraries. Each library has added a new "3-M Cloud Kiosk"; titles may be selected and downloaded to a device. Stop by any library for more information or check on line after September 4th for this new service.

Beaches, Creatures & Cowboys: Florida Movie Posters-this is the theme of the newest exhibit that will be opening at the Charlotte County Historical Center on Sept. 19th at 5pm. Many movies were made in Florida and this fun exhibit talks about a lot of them. This exhibit will be available into November and the Center is located at 22959 Bayshore Rd. in Port Charlotte.

Facilities Construction and Maintenance

Repair and Maintenance

Repairs to the jail generator were completed after a close lightning strike several days ago. This large generator with an engine big enough to power a railroad locomotive had severe damage to its control system and the wires feeding into the building. A temporary generator was installed to power a major portion of the jail in case the power failed. The mix of inmates and no lights is not a good idea at this facility. Parts were ordered, manufactured, and installed in as expedient manner as possible and now the facility is ready for any power outage that may come its way.

The students of Charlotte County have been back to school for over a week now and our libraries are being utilized more and more. Welcome back to our Charlotte County students. The focus of this month's positive happenings by the Facilities Maintenance and Repairs remains on our libraries.

The Mid County Regional Library on 2050 Forrest Nelson Blvd in Port Charlotte made use of our technicians' expertise. One of the room's panels, part of a collapsible wall, came off track making the room a single meeting room. Our technician was able to successfully repair the track and panel and restored the room's capability of being divided into 2 separate meeting areas. Our technicians were able to repair ballasts and change out lamps that were needed to assure optimum lighting.

The Punta Gorda Library on 424 West Henry Street also required the services of the Facilities and Management Department. The staff at the library requested that an old book drop be repaired. Our technicians were able to use materials that the library had on hand and filled in a hole to make the drop useful once again. Speaking of book drops, we were asked to remove an old book drop that had seen better days. The book drop, which was leaking and beyond repair, was properly taken care of. Also at the PG Library, the library staff asked our technicians to look at the newly installed downspouts and the areas at the base which seemed to have soil erosion. Although the downspouts had corrected roof issues, the surrounding ground at the base now needed our attention. To solve these issues our technicians installed a total of nine (9) gravel beds for the downspouts, two (2) elbows for the round six (6) inch gutters to act as a bubbler and not washout the surrounding soil, and made borders and put weed block and stone in them to filter waters.

Lastly, our attentions were turned to the Port Charlotte Library at 2280 Aaron Street. As is often the case during an electric storm the Library was the recipient of a power surge. This surge blew out some light ballasts and our crews were Johnny on the spot replacing them.

So a hearty thanks to the crew at the Facilities and Management for assuring that the Charlotte County Libraries remain in good repair.

Operations

Facilities removed several dead or diseased trees at the Murdock Administration Complex. It is believed that some of these may have been struck by lightning, causing their demise. This is another step taken as we begin to explore tree replacements at this complex.

Project Management

The construction pre-bid meeting was held for the parking lot repairs and sealing at four locations. The parking lot locations affected are: Mid County Library, Punta Gorda Library, Harold Avenue Recreation center and Englewood Annex. The bids are due on September 11th.

Charlotte County Facilities Construction and Maintenance Department is currently involved in a Capital Asset Planning and Management Study. Cannon Design, teamed with Sweet-Sparkman Architects and Johnson Engineering has been hired to establish a comprehensive database of the county's facilities and document the overall condition of the buildings and their systems. This would include such things as the carpeting, paint, HVAC, and roofing. The goal of this project is to create a plan that guides the maintenance and replacement of major building systems and develop a fiscally appropriate budget for implementing long-term repairs and upgrades.

This week, members of the team met to detail the process for information gathering and plan the inspections of three initial buildings. The buildings chosen for the "pilot" study are the Justice Center, Airport Road Annex and the Punta Gorda Library. These facilities were selected based on square footage and geographic location. The consultant's team that includes architects, mechanical/electrical engineers, and civil engineers will be escorted through the facilities by county personnel. The intent of the initial pilot program is to establish the protocol, process and overall time frame for the project.

Human Services

Case Manager Supervisor, Deedra Dowling, attended the annual Florida Council on Aging Conference. The conference provides information on legislative initiatives, training on new policy implementation, and

networking for staff and organizations that provide community based services to frail seniors. During the conference, Deedra was re-elected as secretary for the Community Care for the Elderly Coalition under the new coalition presidency of Doug Beach the former Secretary for the Florida Department of Elder Affairs.

The Department's Neighborhood Accountability Board/Civil Citation staff and Family Services Manager was invited and met with the North Port Community Health Action Team to share with the committee members how Charlotte County operates its juvenile diversion programs. North Port is exploring implementing a juvenile diversion program and has asked Department staff for support, best practices, recommendations, etc. in establishing their program.

Public Works

After extending the drainage pipe on one side of Comstock Street, the maintenance crew backfilled and prepared the area for fabric-form. This work is being done so that sidewalks can be installed in the future. The project is approximately 40 percent complete.

Weiler Engineering presented sample maps and a draft of the design for the Community Plan to the Manasota Key MSTU Advisory Committee. Short and long-term design options were presented and discussed. There will be a presentation to the community on November 6, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. The location will be announced at a later time.

Tourism

The Visitor and Convention Bureau (VCB) held its annual Cooperative Advertising Fair on August 21 from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Charlotte Sports Park. The VCB purchases advertising space in various media and then provides opportunities for area attractions, accommodations and other tourism related businesses to participate in the ad at a cost that is far more affordable than had they purchased the ad on their own.

This year, the VCB will offer advertising opportunities on-line, in regional publications, Allegiant's In-flight magazine, "Canada Calling radio show, the Villages tradeshow and many more options.



Utilities

It is approved!! After months of working with Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Charlotte Technical Center and Chicago Watermark we have been approved for the "C" Operator Training Programs for Drinking Water and Wastewater. I cannot thank John Thompson enough - without him this would never have happened. His expertise, generosity and patience have been phenomenal, and I am looking forward to working

with him on this project. I would like to meet with you to discuss all the arrangements and how we can work with Charlotte County Utilities. I have also found a funding source for paid internships that you might be interested in. My goal is to start these programs October 15, which means I have to begin marketing by next week. Please let me know the day and time that would be convenient for you.